

# DWMP 2002 Annual Report

## INTRODUCTION

The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD or District) Governing Board approved the *District Water Management Plan* (DWMP) in August 2000 (SFWMD, 2000a). The DWMP incorporated a comprehensive examination of resource management in the 16-county South Florida region. The policies, programs and activities of the District described in the DWMP reflected the multi-functional nature of water resource management in the region. The interrelated nature of areas of responsibility was considered in the development of the DWMP. The effects of activities identified under one area of responsibility on the other areas of responsibility continue to be considered in the implementation of the DWMP.

The DWMP was developed consistent with the requirements of Section 373.036, Florida Statutes (F.S.) and Section 62-40.520, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) in conjunction with the five water management districts developed additional criteria for the DWMP.

The DWMP is intended to provide comprehensive long-range guidance for the actions of the District in implementing its responsibilities under state and federal laws. The DWMP must be updated at least once every five years and the District has committed to the development of the next comprehensive DWMP update in 2004, unless that date is modified by the FDEP.

Given the long-range nature of the DWMP, it is important to periodically evaluate the progress of the District toward accomplishing the goals established in the plan. The necessity for the regular review and evaluation of progress in achieving planning goals is explicitly recognized in the State Water Resource Implementation Rule, which requires regular review of the DWMP, pursuant to Chapter 62-40.520, F.A.C. The water management districts are required to report annually to the FDEP regarding their progress in implementing their respective plans. The DWMP annual reports are intended to serve as status reports on the activities undertaken by the District, as well as on the performance measures contained within the DWMP, between updates of the plan.

In an effort to facilitate comparison of the plans of each of the water management districts, the DWMP was organized to reflect the four areas of responsibility of the water management districts: water supply, flood protection and floodplain management, water quality and natural systems. This common format is also used for the DWMP annual reports to help track the progress each district has made in implementing its respective district water management plans.

This annual report covers progress made by the District during Fiscal Year (FY) 2002. This fiscal year began on October 1, 2001 and ended on September 30, 2002.